

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A network system having a plurality of decentralized RevBots coupled to
5 selected website servers, each RevBot comprising:

first data storage apparatus adapted to store rules concerning the access to
be provided by said website to a particular client of said website;

second data storage apparatus coupled to said website server and adapted
to store content received from said server that is requested by a client of said
10 website; and

data modifier apparatus coupled to said data storage apparatus adapted to
modify said requested content in accordance with said rules stored in said first
data storage apparatus.

2. A network system including a plurality of websites having stored content,

15 first data storage apparatus coupled to selected websites and adapted to
store rules concerning the access to be provided by said website to a particular
client of said website;

second data storage apparatus coupled to said selected website and adapted
to store content that is requested by a client of said website; and

20 data modifier apparatus coupled to said data storage apparatus and adapted
to modify said requested content in accordance with said rules stored in said first
data storage apparatus.

3. A network system for connecting a plurality of clients to a plurality of
sites having stored content;

25 rules means coupled to the servers of selected ones of sites for storing
access rules associated with said sites; and

access control means responsive to said rules means and operatively
coupled to the server of a selected site for controlling distribution of said content
to a client in accordance with said access rules.

4. The network system of Claim 2, wherein said clients include a consumer interested in downloading content from a site in which certain content requires payment to access;

said rules means storing a rule only allowing accessing with the receipt of payment or credit approval.

5. The network system of Claim 2 comprising means for automatically sending a message over the network informing said clients that the stored content has been modified or updated.

6. The network system of Claim 2 for enabling digital rights management (DRM), said rules means storing a rule limiting access to various certain content such as limiting viewing of a movie to a predetermined number of times and preventing access after said limit has been reached.

7. The network system of Claim 2, wherein goods and/or services are distributed to said client after authorization has been provided by said access control means, said rules means authorizing access to enable said site to forward a digital key or similar control request to said client.

8. The network system of Claim 7, wherein said content is provided to said client on a CD.

9. The network system of Claim 7, wherein said content is provided to said client on a DVD.

10. A network system comprising:

a plurality of sites having stored content, said content subject to being modified and updated by the entity controlling a particular site;

a plurality of search engine robots or bots adapted for searching said content;

registration means coupled to selected sites for storing a list of network locations of said search engines; and

means coupled to said registration means for automatically modifying one or a plurality of said search engines of a modification to or updating of said stored content.

11. In a network system having a plurality of sites having stored content, said content subject to being modified and updated by the entity controlling a particular site, the method of assisting clients connected to said network system comprising the computer implemented steps of:

5 (a) processing queries to a particular site from a plurality of clients connected to said network system,

(b) automatically determining the types of site access to be provided to each client query, and

(c) automatically modifying the content sent to said client.

10 12. In the network system of Claim 11, wherein step (c) automatically deletes a portion of the content before it is provided to said client.

13. In the network system of Claim 11, wherein step (c) automatically enhances the content sent to said client.

14. In the network system of Claim 11, wherein step (c) automatically filters
15 the content before it is provided to said client.

15. In the network system of Claim 11, wherein steps (b) and (c) participate in an e-commerce transaction.

16. In the network system of Claim 15, wherein steps (b) and (c) participate in an e-commerce transaction for fee-based content access.

20 17. In the network system of Claim 15, wherein steps (b) and (c) participate in a commerce transaction for supporting physical distribution.

18. In the network system of Claim 15, wherein steps (b) and (c) provide digital rights management for protecting intellectual property.

25 19. In the network system of Claim 15, wherein steps (b) and (c) provide digital rights management for protection copyrighted material.